

REMARKS

Thirty-nine (39) claims, including three (3) independent claim and thirty-six (36) dependent claims, are pending. No fee for additional claims is believed to be payable and no change in inventorship is believed to result from the amendments proposed herein.

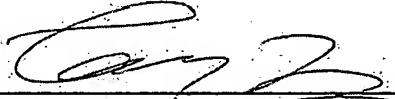
Support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that, claims 1-18 and 39-59 are now in condition for allowance, and therefore request prompt and favorable action. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (858) 350-2315.

Respectfully submitted,

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